

Cryptoglaux (= *Nyctala*) *acadica*, ♀, Newport, Oregon, December 14, 1896. This specimen does not appear to belong to the recently described humid Northwest Coast form, *Cryptoglaux acadica scotæa* (Osgood). It seems not distinguishable from examples from Ontario, Connecticut, Minnesota, and California. Perhaps it was a winter visitant from the less humid interior somewhere.

Calcarius lapponicus alascensis, ♂, October 2; ♀, September 14, 1899; both taken at Cape Foulweather, Oregon. As far as I can judge these are exactly like fall specimens from Kotzebue Sound, Alaska.

Spizella monticola ochracea, ♂, Newport, Oregon, April 9, 1901. This specimen is somewhat larger than Kowak River breeding birds; the interscapulars are more narrowly black-streaked, with edgings of buffy white; hind neck and rump also paler. These characters point toward a more arid summer habitat, possibly among the northern Rocky Mountains of British Columbia. — JOSEPH GRINNELL, *Palo Alto, Calif.*

Connecticut Bird Notes. — This spring (1901) Mr. J. B. Canfield of Bridgeport, Conn., reports that three pairs of Rough-winged Swallows (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) nested in this vicinity. Judge John N. Clark, of Saybrook, notes another pair in that locality; and while en route on his trip to New Hampshire he noted a pair at White River Junction. Mr. R. Heber Howe, Jr., reports a pair at Gales Ferry. Mr. Calvin Rawson ('J. M. W.') of Norwich, Conn., also reports two pairs of Rough-wings, one nesting under the Laurel Hill bridge, and the other in the new coal pocket.

I wish to record the nesting of three pairs of Rough-winged Swallows, one pair at Millstone Point, a short distance south of New London, first noticed May 12; a pair in Groton, opposite New London, June 10; and a pair still further east in Poquonnoc, also on June 10, about ten miles from the Rhode Island border.

Rough-winged Swallows are evidently extending their breeding range farther and farther eastward, and are more numerous than generally supposed, and the A. O. U. Check-List should include Connecticut as within its breeding range. This is the verdict of Judge John N. Clark of Saybrook, Conn., one of our most careful observers, with long years of experience in ornithological field work.

On May 12, 1901, I was fortunate enough to find a small colony of Fish Crows (*Corvus ossifragus*) nesting on one of the headlands jutting into Long Island Sound, in the vicinity of New London and within sight of the Watch Hill summer hotel, on the Rhode Island border. On further investigation I found 2 nests containing 5 eggs each; 1 nest containing 4 eggs; 1 nest containing 3 eggs; 1 nest containing 4 young (a day or two old).

On Nov. 10, I noted five individuals of the colony and shall observe if they winter so far east of their usual range. Mr. J. B. Canfield of Bridgeport, speaks of a small colony in his vicinity also.

I also wish to record the capture of a Black Vulture at Black Point, East Lyme, on July 6, 1901, by Mr. Robert Payne. The bird was seen to alight in a pig-pen and feed with the pigs. It was secured and is now in my mounted collection of birds. No others were seen.—JAMES H. HILL, *New London, Conn.*

Ontario Bird Notes.—A Dovekie (*Alle alle*) was shot Nov. 18, 1901, by H. Macdonald, a fisherman, two miles out in the lake from Toronto, Ontario. Mr. John Maughn, a taxidermist, now has it in his possession. I was present when he opened the stomach, which was empty except for a few small fish bones. It was a female and evidently a young bird, as there was no white on the secondaries and the back was slaty instead of a black.

A pair of Little Blue Herons (*Ardea caerulca*) was taken by J. W. Anderson at Aylmer, Ont., a small inland town about nine miles north of Lake Erie, August 15, 1901. Two more were shot within a few miles of this place some time ago; all four were in the white plumage, with the primaries tipped with slate color.

A Canada Jay (*Perisoreus canadensis*) was also taken by J. W. Anderson, at Aylmer on Nov. 9, 1901.

A specimen of the Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator*) was taken at Whitby, Ont., Nov. 18, 1901, from a number that had been in that vicinity for some time, and was sent to me by a friend.—J. H. AMES, *Toronto, Ontario.*

Solution of the 'Ornithological Mystery.'—I was much pleased to read Mr. Brewster's article, 'An Ornithological Mystery,' in the October number of 'The Auk,' as I feel certain I can help to solve it, as I myself had a bird which answers exactly to the description of the Yellow Rail (*Porzana noveboracensis*).

On Sept. 13, 1900, while in Mr. Hope's bird store, Queen St., Toronto, he told me he had a live rail for me, and when I saw it I was delighted to find it was a Yellow Rail, which had been taken by a man on the Humber River (particulars unknown). I had a cage made for him, 2½ by 1½ feet, with a metal bottom, in which I kept sand and about half an inch of water, with some aquatic plants, which I thought would be suitable for my new friend.

The little fellow became very tame, and I let him out occasionally, but he made no attempt at flying. Mr. Brewster speaks of 'the Mystery' as the 'Kicker,' while the female portion of my household christened my bird 'the Scold.' I kept the cage on the kitchen floor and he would invariably scold the first person who went into the room in the morning, and if any of their skirts brushed up against the cage he would be sure to scold them with his familiar call *kik-kik-kik-kik-queah*. If we went into the room at night and lighted the gas and surprised him he would use the longer call, *kik-kik-kik-kik-kik-kik-kik-kik-ki-queah*; and on two occasions, when he was at ease he uttered a note exactly like the Indigo Bunting's *chip*.